

Terrence O'Flaherty



This Dance Is Taken

IT MAY be difficult to learn what the Chinese people have been doing during the communications blackout, but judging from the four-act ballet staged for the Nixons, it is easy to see what they HAVEN'T been doing. They haven't been dancing.

There may be mysteries in politics but there are none in art.



Ballet for Nixons

Much of the performance of "The Red Detachment of Women" was carried on television yesterday morning and inasmuch as it was produced by the wife of Mao Tse-tung it cannot be dismissed as a mere divertissement for statesmen. Obviously it was the best of the People's Republic entertainment. Like American television, it reached for the lowest common

denominator and found it. Unlike American TV, it was sought in the artistry of the dance rather than situation comedy.

★ ★ ★

THE POLITICAL intent of the plot is obvious and needs no comment. Even a half-wit could tell what was happening. The disappointment was in the quality of the dancing itself. Like most revolutionary art it was constructed of muscle instead of the spirit, but even the muscularity lacked the boisterous, folkdance skill of Russia's Moiseyev troupe, the only handy comparison.

What the ballet DID have, however, was the strength that comes from simple dedication and pride which is found in U.S. junior high school productions and disappears almost immediately thereafter. In the end it was the production's honesty which stays in the mind. It was another aid in understanding the Chinese which, after all, is the purpose of the trip.

It also served to recall the claim of writer-producer Irving B. Drasnin in his fascinating CBS program "Misunderstanding China" that the American attitude toward China in this century has been determined by the images of the Chinese found in political cartoons, dime novels, comic books and Hollywood movies. It is from them — not books or direct contact — that we have known our new friends in the past.

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DRASNIN'S documentary included a fascinating collection of scenes from "The Mask of Fu Manchu" "The



Bitter Tea of General Yen," "Oil for the Lamps of China," "The Mysterious Mr. Wong" and other films drumming home the stereotype of the sinister Chinese, which already had been introduced on the covers of adventure magazines.



'Charlie Chan'

"To be sure, some Chinese possessed all the wisdom of the East — like Charlie Chan, who was no more a real Chinese than the actors who played him. There were six of them and all spoke as if they had learned English from a fortune cookie," observed narrator Charles Kuralt. Even the good images Americans found in the novels of Pearl Buck were another stereotype.

★ ★ ★

OTHER misunderstandings were documented by the program: Despite the 4000 American missionaries who descended upon the 4000-year-old Chinese civilization and pronounced it heathen, the actual number of conversions was less than one per cent of the population . . . At the height of the U.S. mercantile invasion of China the Chinese market represented only 4 per cent of America's total foreign trade.

"In the past 22 years China has still been a hazy image in American minds rather than a reality. Almost everything Americans and Chinese know of each other is what their governments have wanted them to know. The purpose of this program is to see beyond the images and stereotypes and begin to see the Chinese, and ourselves, more realistically," concluded Kuralt.

We seem to be doing our part. Let's hope it works the other way as well.

WEDNESDAY'S
NONVIOLENT HOUR

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LIFE AROUND US
7:30 PM

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Special Will Focus on China Misconceptions

"Misunderstanding China," an exploration of a century of myths, stereotypes and other misconceptions Americans have had about the Chinese, will be presented as a CBS News special, Feb. 20. Correspondent Charles Kuralt will be the reporter on the broadcast—to be presented on the eve of President Nixon's arrival in Peking.

"Misunderstanding Chi-

na" traces Sino-American relationships back some 100 years, beginning with the arrival of the first Americans in China. It illustrates—through the use of Hollywood feature films, official government film, newsreels and old pulp magazines and cartoons — how Americans have stereotyped and characterized the Chinese. It also examines America's view of China during the past 20 years, as influenced both by old stereotypes and by new ones.

"In the past 20 years," says producer-writer Irv Drasnin, "China as an issue has divided America, played a part in Congressional witchhunts and presidential campaigns and great national debates. We have argued about the Chinese and we have fought the Chinese and all this time we haven't really known very much about them.

"The point is that we think we know something about them when all we have seen are laundrymen and waiters, and Fu Manchu and Charlie Chan. All these images and our view of them are part of this broadcast.

"What we think about something influences what we do about it," adds Drasnin. "We have done many things in China, almost all of them based not on any real knowledge of the Chinese but on our feelings about them. What we have done in China is also based on our view of ourselves. This broadcast is as much about ourselves as it is about the Chinese." Perry Wolff is executive producer of "Misunderstanding China."

arts & pleasures

a daily critique by WWD

THE TUBE

After having pretended for more than 20 years that China was an island off the coast of Asia, Americans have been bombarded this week with glimpses of reality. Our leader, for whom the central issue in the 1960 campaign was whether we should be prepared to wage war to defend our illusion that China was an offshore island, is now going to inspect the mainland exotics at firsthand. At the same time that the newspapers informed us the President was being given a crash course on China, other media were doing the same for the public — Newsweek devoted an issue to China; virtually every TV channel has given its viewers a look behind what used to be called "the Silken Curtain."

What is most remarkable about all this is that very few of the facts presented this week would be new to alert Europeans or even well-read Americans — that they are being presented to the public as "news" is a feat even Pravda would have to admire.

One of the things that makes CBS' "Misunderstanding China" (to be aired Sunday at 6 p.m.) an exemplary documentary is that, instead of simply putting forward in-

formation about the Chinese in a "now it can be told" tone, the picture of contemporary China is presented in the context of the decades of ignorance and almost willful misunderstanding that preceded our sudden desire for the facts.

Teddy Roosevelt, the documentary points out, called the Chinese "an immoral, degenerate, worthless race." Even Emerson, imagining the nations bringing their contributions to civilization to a gathering, thought the Chinese would have nothing to bring but tea. Pulp fiction created the image of the Chinese as a race of arch-villains, an image upon which Hollywood lavished all the power of its special effects.

The Japanese air war against China led to a new sympathy on the part of Hollywood, but it also created new, equally false stereotypes: The Chinese were a race of superstitious, oppressed children. As the excellent narration puts it: "Our best-known actors and actresses led the Chinese to safety and salvation . . . China was the background for our superiority, a theatre for our idealism."

China

Not all the misconceptions came from Hollywood. Many of the Americans who went to China were missionaries, whose only concern was, as Noel Coward once put it, "to lead the wretched heathen to the light," or, as a missionary film explains, "They carry the yoke of Satan — this is the yoke we must lift."

Having shown, through marvelous clips from newsreels, travelogs and Hollywood features, the source of many of our misconceptions about China, the program is somewhat easy on the press, not driving home the way newspapers and magazines tended to reinforce myths rather than dispel them, not mentioning, for example, the effect of the missionary approach to China on the son of missionaries, Henry Lu.

The CBS documentary does a brilliant job of showing how misconceptions about China formed in the early decades of this century were echoed in the distortions about China that the American press encouraged after 1949, how, for example, the Cultural Revolution, an event still difficult to understand, was used simply as a pretext to revive the notion of the Chinese as "faceless hordes."

The program ends with some beautiful color photography by European cameramen showing everyday life in China to-

day; some kindergarten children marching and imitating elephants; some young people strolling quietly in lovely public parks.

Similarly, one of a group of spectacular color photographs by French Journalist Marc Riboud, in the Metropolitan Museum's exhibit, "Behind the Great Wall," shows families picking wild flowers that grow along the Great Wall, again an illuminating contrast to the photos of the Chinese simply as fanatics.

The Metropolitan show also puts China into a context: It is easier to understand pictures of Red Guards exhorting people after having seen Robert Capa's striking 1938 photograph of "student-soldiers" rallying the public against the Japanese. The photos that give one the greatest understanding of the enormous transitions and crises the Chinese have undergone in the last 40 years are those of the incomparable Henri-Cartier-Bresson. There are also some haunting family-album type shots of the present leaders of China taken during the '30s by Edgar Snow, who lived with them when they were "in hiding," who did more than any American to help his people understand China, and who died ironically, sadly at the very moment that understanding began to take place.

— HOWARD KISSEL

THE DANCE

National Ballet

think wistfully of a visit to the dentist, or of being trapped in a stalled subway train. The technique was inept enough to be funny, the phrasing was nonexistent and the line and definition could have been bettered by an amoeba.

The company's "Les Sylphides" is filled with jetes that pop instead of arch and arabesques penches that seem to be fighting a strong headwind. The members of the corps looks as if they were positioned

This week, the National Ballet is at City Center, which makes it a good place to avoid.

The company's production of "The Sleeping Beauty" is amiable and, to some degree, enjoyable, but its program of five short works is just too bad to be true. "Beauty" is a luxurious and ambitious production, conceived in the grand style. The sets and costumes are lush and the choreography and structure of the Petipa

Don Freeman

TV-RADIO EDITOR
THE SAN DIEGO UNION

"Live from Peking!" The words breathe their own special excitement and drama. And there was Walter Cronkite, just before the presidential plane landed at Peking, speaking by satellite to Charles Collingwood, back at CBS in New York.

"Somehow," said Cronkite, "I had expected to see dark clothes everywhere, caps and black tunics on both sexes. But the clothes I've seen on the people here have some color to them. I was surprised."



Another misconception shot down. Undoubtedly there will be more. Therein lies the significance of "Misunderstanding China," the aptly titled and highly illuminating program which preceded CBS' coverage of President Nixon's arrival in China.

"One item on the menu from Column A and one from column B and a fortune cookie — you'll be hungry an hour later," said the narrator, Charles Kuralt, adding wryly: "That is about as much as we know about the Chinese."

Once, Kuralt recalled, an Asian was asked, "What is your opinion of western civilization?" And he answered: "I think it would be a good idea." This kind of lofty disdain, rooted in a feeling of cultural superiority born of a civilization that is 4,000 years old (and a belief that all enemies crumble or are absorbed), has always been the attitude of the Chinese toward the West.

"But when it comes to feelings of superiority," Kuralt noted, "the Chinese have more than met their match in us Americans." For the rest of the hour we were given evidence of this, beginning with an early edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica summing up the Chinese as "cold, cunning and distrustful." And Theodore Roosevelt saying: "They are an immoral, degraded and worthless race."

* * *

LATER, IT WOULD BE the movies that would influence a generation or two. These movies range from the old thrillers to the comparatively recent "Sand Pebbles" and now it's happening all over again, with a spate of old flicks about China turning up lately on the TV late show.

How odd it seemed now, seeing the clips unfold from the old movies. "Hollywood reflected popular beliefs," says Kuralt. "Chinese lurked in the darkness. their presence meant treachery, danger . . . and certain death."

It sure did, judging from those movies with Lon Chaney and Bela Lugosi and Boris Karloff playing the infamous Dr. Fu Manchu. And the dialogue, as tortuous as the torture scenes: "This serum distilled from dragon's blood . . . the organs of different reptiles and mixed with the magic brew of the sacred seven herbs will temporarily change you into the living instrument of my will."

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And from another gem: "Have you ever had your bones scraped, captain?"

"This is amusing racism, but it's still racism," said Kuralt. "The Chinese government officially protested this caricature. But protest from Chinese carried no weight at the box office."

Contrarily, in the movies, we were given one Chinese with all the wisdom of the inscrutable East, namely Charlie Chan ("Person who threw this knife also kill Alan Colby when he return to claim estate. Place body behind secret panel. Motive like end of string — tied in many knots.")

For 25 years, in 48 films, made by four studios, we saw six Charlie Chans — none of them Chinese. "All of them," says Kuralt, "spoke as if they had discovered English in a fortune cookie."

I think they did. * * *

WHEN IT COMES to China, even the experts, the so-called old China hands come up with a puzzle (to borrow a phrase from another inscrutable, the king of Siam in "The King and I"). Dr. James Thomson of Harvard's East Asian Research Center has been opping up on ABC, working in tandem with Howard K. Smith.

The other night, Smith said to Thomson: "H. G. Wells once stated that the Great Wall was built more to keep the Chinese in than the barbarians out. True or false?"

Thomson hesitated. "Probably false," he said.

Then we were shown films of children in China on their way to school. They were eating popsicles. Popsicles in China?

"Don't tell me they were invented by the Chinese," Smith said.

"Who knows?" said Thomson.

The Peking Visit Telecasts: An Illusion

By Henry Mitchell

Honest men may differ on the question of Mrs. Nixon's chopsticks since "proficiency" is a flexible word; and honest eyes looking at the round balls in front of each plate at the Peking banquet may variously see them as pomegranates (as I guessed) or oranges (as the China expert from Harvard thought) or bowls of Jello (as correspondent John Hart surmised for reasons inscrutable).

You certainly couldn't tell with any certainty from the picture on CBS (WTOP, Channel 9) in yesterday's pre-dawn report of the President's trip to China.

And while these were among the high points of my own 14 hours beside the TV set and CBS, there's no need to begin with a quibble.

The main point is that trifles start seeming interesting, or indeed urgently critical, by the time a camera has intruded them on your attention for half an hour.

Through no fault of CBS (and other reporters watching the other networks found much the same) the extremely significant visit with Mao Tse-tung could not be shown, while the bulk of pictures from Peking that were shown were monotonous.

Twenty shots of the Gate of Heavenly Peace are as good as 200 shots; and once you've satisfied yourself that the Great Hall of the People is almost as graceless as the Rayburn Building, there's no real need to marvel at it indefinitely.

Although television coverage of President Nixon's trip is not firmly scheduled, partly because of the President's flexible travel plans, the following times are the best estimates of Washington stations for their special reports from China today (subject in each case to further spot cov-

Today's Broadcast Schedule

- erage whenever events warrant):*
- Channel 4 (WRC-NBC) — 7 to 9 a.m. ("The Today Show") and 1130 p.m. to midnight.
 - Channel 7 (WMAL-ABC) — 7:30 to 8 a.m., 4:30 to 5:10 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.
 - Channel 9 (WTOP-CBS) — 7 to

The Peking Visit Telecasts: An Illusion of Indifference

The trouble—and it's a real trouble—is that television quickly bogs down without novelties to delight the eye. Activity, and not necessarily reality, is what shows and counts in a TV camera's eye.

The greeting of the President by Premier Chou and the prompt reception by Chairman Mao were marks of singular interest and honor—but the TV pictures of empty streets contradicted that reality and produced an illusion of indifference to the Nixon visit.

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It is clearly more significant if the talks go well with Mao than if half a million people mill in the streets, but the illusion of electronic pictures is so strong that this point is easily overlooked while watching. Thus, television, merely by honestly focusing its cameras on action, can distort or obscure the importance of an event.

Without exciting pictures it is at last understandable how a commentator could be driven to observe that Chinese wine is "like liquid razor

8 a.m. and 10:30 to 11 p.m. It is thought that the 7 a.m. program will show the President with Premier Chou at a cultural exhibition.

This morning in Washington will find Peking in its evening hours since that capital is 13 hours ahead of our time.

bles" and that Mrs. Nixon was drinking it "perhaps to her cost." This did not mean Mrs. Nixon was chugging it down—merely that the speaker was a bit desperate to fill up the time.

Only when the rare moments of activity were kaleidoscoped, putting hours into minutes, did television seem exciting, in retrospective summaries.

And even then there was an irony not lost on the multi-hour viewer:

The excellent CBS documentary, "Misunderstanding China," which began the network's marathon coverage at 6 p.m. Sunday, warned that for 100 years America has thought of China in terms of dangerous images rather than in terms of fact and knowledge.

Soon thereafter the network began showing its largely accidental images for the next 13 hours, off and on.

Such is the hazard of television. If the Peking scene had been hugely active or marvelously emotional, everybody would say the coverage was glorious. As it was, the empty plazas all but lied about the importance of the day.

China special shows all but the Chinese themselves

Printed from yesterday's editions of The Sun.

By JUDY BACHRACH

What is your opinion of an civilization?"
Think it would be a good

is was manifested the c regard the Chinese s had for outside cul- For its part, Western ation took a peculiar of the East. And as for United States—well, ac- ing to last night's CBS special, we saw the Chi- alternately through the of fear, greed, hate, ig- ice, and racism. But we saw the Chinese.

bles Kurault narrated rather exceptional piece eological reversal which ined the U.S. attitude d China from the first k of the Open Door

right through the last Charlie Chan movie.

Image and analysis

The first half of the pro- gram was devoted to China's image as it was revealed in the various progenitors of American culture: the pulp magazines emblazoned with leering yellow faces and the Hollywood movies that made fear mobile. The second half was simply an analysis of some of the more flagrant political outrages the West has perpetrated on the East.

"Misunderstanding China" began with a few succinct quotations from some of our more revered Americans: Ralph Waldo Emerson, who assured his readers that the only good thing China ever bequeathed to the world was tea; Teddy Roosevelt who called the Chinese an "im-



CHARLIE CHAN
(... Sidney Toler)

moral, degraded and worth- less race." It then recounted the tragic history of cheap Chinese labor in America:

the exploitation, the riots, the lynchings. And it deftly relat- ed all these overt manifesta- tions of fear and ignorance to the culture that bolstered the stereotypes of fear and igne- rance.

For 20 minutes we got some smartly-edited sequ- ences from Fu Manchu and Charlie Chan movies, from "The Good Earth" and "55 Days at Peking." We saw Barbara Stanwyck melting into the arms of evil Oriental abductors; we saw gorgeous missionaries bestowing the blessings of civilization on a 4,000-year-old culture; we saw the humble Chinese peasants embracing Gregory Peck, battling Humphrey Bogart.

"The Battle of China"

But by far the finest mo- ment came with an ancient clip of government propagan- da called "The Battle of

China." "Battle of China" was a movie released for the benefit of our fighting men of World War II, which depicted the Chinese as a brave and honorable people, staunch al- lies fighting a common ene- my and friends of democracy to the end. "Battle of China" was also speedily relegated to oblivion the movement the Ko- rean War broke out, and re- placed by another film illumi- nating the sorry defeat of the nice Chinese to the Red Chi- nese. And the juxtaposition of those two films was just about the most effective statement on about-face diplo- macy CBS could have found. Also the most dramatic (se- who says documentaries have to be dull?).

Part II was merely reali- ty's embodiment of Holly- wood daydreams: old footage of missionaries racing after Chinese souls, capitalists rac- ing after Chinese ven, diplo- mats racing after Chiang Kai shek. More recent clips were provided through the courtesy of Swiss and Japanese jour- nalists.

The only sorry thing about all of these bold re-examina- tions of China is that they come late—very late. Most specifically they come in the wake of a presidential conces- sion to reality; they did not precede it. It's almost as if executive diplomacy dictate television content. Mao strips Peking of the more obvious anti-American posters; w

Today's television programs

Morning

9 Sunrise Semester.	20 Astroboy.	4 Not For Women Only.	Wants To Know.
4 News.	7.30 13 Cartoon Festival.	5 The Flintstones.	9 16 43 Lucy Show.
13 Devotions.	6 28 Electric Company.	7 Phil Donahue Show.	20 Ben Casey.
13 Sermonette.	5 Porky Pig and Friends.	8 Mike Douglas.	26 Classroom TV.
4 Faith and Life.	7 Cartoon Time.	9 Harambee.	10.30 2 9 16 43 My Three Sons.
13 The Afro-American Experience.	20 Bozo Circus.	20 Li'l Rascals.	13 4 8 Concentration.
4 Down to Earth.	43 CBS News.	26 Sesame Street.	5 My Favorite Martian.
5 Today in Your Life.	8.00 2 9 Captain Kangaroo.	43 Captain Kangaroo.	7 Bewitched.
2 16 Sunrise Semester.	6 23 Symposium on Drugs.	9.30 2 Dialing For Dollars.	11.00 2 9 16 43 Family Affair.
3 Learning to Do.	5 Banana Splits and Friends.	4 Your Wonderful World.	11 4 8 Sale of the Century.
4 Education Exchange.	7 The Magic Door.	4 Galloping Gourmet.	23 Sesame Street.
5 Education.	24 Sesame Street.	5 Mister Ed.	5 Hazel.
8 Country Music Time.	43 Jack LaLanne.	16 Bewitched.	7 Love, American Style.
9 Time for English.	8.30 13 Leave It To Beaver.	20 Romper Room.	20 Morning Movie.
13 Consumer Checkout.	20 George of the Jungle and Friends.	9.55 2 News.	11.30 2 9 16 43 Love of Life.
4 Events 4 Washington.	43 Morning Show.	10.00 2 To Tell the Truth.	11 4 8 Hollywood Squares.
2 9 CBS News.	9.00 2 16 Romper Room.	11 8 Dinah's Place.	13 7 That Girl.
Local news at 7.45.	11 Watch Your Child/ The Me Too Show.	13 Baltimore Movietime.	5 The Mothers-in-Law
1 4 8 16 Today.	13 Arnold Zenker Show.	"Flower Drum Song." (Part 2.) Rodgers and Hammerstein musical about a Chinese mail- order bride who comes to San Francisco. Nancy Kwan, James Shigeta, Miyoshi Umeki. 1962.	
Local news at 7.25 and 8.25.	2 28 Classroom TV.	5 Hazel.	
13 The New Zoo Revue.		7 What Every Woman	
5 Cartoon Playhouse.			
7 Public Affairs.			

Afternoon

2 2 16 33 Where the Heart Is.	7 16 All My Children.	20 Bozo.	20 Speed Racer.
1 4 8 Jeopardy.	8 What's My Line?	3.00 2 9 16 43 The Secret Storm.	43 Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.
13 Bewitched.	9 News.	4 4 8 Another World.	4.30 2 The Big Valley.
	20 Money Movie.		13 Dick Van Dyke Show.

Radio

News Reports

ON THE HOUR—WBAL, WCBM, WISZ, WISZ-FM, WJMM-FM, WBBB, WBMD, WBMD-FM, WFTI, WTHI.
ON THE HALF HOUR—WFI, WTHI, WTHI-FM, WBAL, WJMM-FM, WJMM-FM, WJMM-FM.
FIVE MINUTES OF THE HOUR—WCAO, WWIN, WJMM-FM.
THIRTEEN MINUTE NEWSCASTS
7.00 A.M. WBAL, WTHI.
8.00 A.M. WBAL, WTHI.
12.00 Noon WBAL.
1.00 P.M. WBAL.
5.00 P.M. WTHI.
6.00 P.M. WBAL, WCBM.
7.30 P.M. WBAL.
11.00 P.M. WBAL.

Sports

8.00 P.M. WBAL—Ice Hockey: Clippers vs. Cleveland.
10 P.M. WBAL—College Basket- ball: Maryland vs. Richmond (tape).
Station Identification

Inside Story

NBC last week was given 2 to present counter-commercial mobiles and leaded gasoline New York. The ads are under FCC originally refused to ap But the U.S. Court of Appeal asked that the entertainment spots. NBC has said it is ma carried over a full year, and months. That's fine, the FCC why "consideration of the trea have to "await the completion

In an effort to re-establish WAGA-TV in Atlanta is setting other law enforcement officers. Badge. Nominations for the viewers, including officers the selected by the Georgia Council on Delinquency, will receive a station. Monthly winners of the annual Golden Badge Award.

American Airlines has agreed to underwrite a series of 10 hourlong specials keyed to the American Revolution Bicentennial, which will bring Chet Huntley back to network tv. The series will be produced and directed by Donald B. Hyatt of NBC Enterprises' special projects unit, with network and international placement sales still to be determined. The first program is skedded for airing on U.S. tv next fall, and the series is skedded to continue through 1977.

(Huntley will serve as the series' on-and-off-screen narrator, as well as serving as commercial spokesman for the airline—a role he has already assumed. The shows have been given working titles of "Pursuing Happiness", "Strange & Terrible Times", "Men to Match My Mountains", "Shots Heard 'Round the World", "Damn the Torpedoes—Go Ahead!", "The Fabulous Country", "Faith of Our Fathers", "The Fate of Unborn Millions", "Hitch Your Wagon to a Star" and "I Name Thee Old Glory".

Telecast plans call for the first show to air in the fourth quarter of this current year, then two a year in 1973 through 1976, with the final program to air on June 30, 1977. Despite the NBCE auspices of the project, the airing network has not yet been selected (although it must be assumed that NBC will have first crack at it). The programs will be peddled overseas on a program-by-program basis rather than expecting a foreign buyer to contract for the whole bundle over such an extended period of time.

Doyle Dane Bernbach represented American Airlines in setting up the deal.

Above and beyond pilot projects, the studio has Freddie Wayne's "Ben Franklin, American," a special readying for NBC airing (with series possibilities inherent in the concept) and "Return to Peyton Place" skedded for debut April 3 on the same web as a daytime serial strip. In conjunction with Columbia Records, the studio has shot two half-hour musical pilots with Vicki Carr and Ray Stevens, respectively, possibly for syndication. And finally, 20th has renewed its syndicated "Circus" series for a second year of 26 half-hours.

ABC-TV Renews 'MOW'

ABC-TV has renewed its "Movie of the Week" made-for-tv film series for the 1972-73 season, its fourth year on the web.

The skein is the direct responsibility of Barry Diller, the web's veepee for feature films and Circle Entertainment, with Allen Epstein as director of the project.

London, Feb. 22.

London Weekend TV's "Upstairs, Downstairs" is best series and Thames TV's "Benny Hill Show" best light entertainment production of 1971 in the annual British Society of Film and Television Arts Awards here tomorrow night (Wed.). Comedy Eric Morecambe and Wolfe will receive a special award for their BBC Saturday shows.

BBC's "Zeez, The Incredible Yearner" won the best play award and Laurence "I Was in the Army" Montgomery won the best

Just when President Nixon
Chairman Mao appear to
found a way to coexist, things
to have hotted up between
ABC-TV and CBS-TV publicity
partments.

Nobody expects a shootout on Sixth Ave., or any lesser violence to erupt, but relations are no cordial as they were, to say the least.

It seems that back in December CBS designated May 31-June 1 the time it would junket tv critics and reporters of major newspapers to New York, Los Angeles and San Diego—to meet the daytime and nighttime producers and stars and, in the latter city, learn how CBS News plans to cover the GOP convention.

When CBS picked out its d
its publicists got in touch with
and ABC to ask if they would
to join the effort and share the
NBC, which had teamed up
CBS on a similar junket last y
indicated it had already plann
press trip of its own on or a
June 22. The ABC exec conta
said he would clear it with
bosses and get back.

According to CBS, the ABC never did get back and the thing they knew was that ABC contacted editors by phone and invited them on a May 30-July safari to California. San Diego a big junket spot this year because of the Republican convention, it's on all tours.

When CBS learned about ADC inquiries--it had already come calling around and had a number of associates--immediately fired its agents toward further investigation, as indicated by the following letter. (The letter is dated 10/20/68, but the letterhead is dated 10/18/68.)

Britain's Video Awards

NBC's John Chancellor was allowed to mention—"incidentally"—that Nixon was a "voice" in the "chorus" which accompanied Joe McCarthy. But Service, who was fired by the State Department and hired back after he fought the firing through the Supreme Court, had more impact in his predictions as a China expert than Chancellor as a newsmen, in De Cola's words. Titled, "Mission to Yenan," the full film as shown on WNET was a hard indictment of the cold-war hysteria which caused the U. S. split with China.

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London, Feb. 22.
London Weekend TV's "Upstairs, Downstairs" is best series and Thames TV's "Benny Hill Show" best light entertainment production of 1971 in the annual British Society of Film and Television Arts Awards here tomorrow night (Wed.). Comics Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise will receive a special award for their BBC vidvariety shows.

BBC's "Edna, The Inebriate Woman" won the best play laurel, and Granada's "World In Action" telementary series won the best factual programming nod. Year's best actor and actress were John Le Mesurier and Patricia Hayes, while light entertainment performance awards were collected by series co-stars Ronnie Corbett and Ronnie Barker. BBC's "Man Alive" pubaffairs series won producer Desmond Wilcox the Richard Dimbleby award.

Other winners: BBC's "Omnibus" (best specialized program), and the "Woman in Prison" segment of "Man Alive" (factual production special award). Thames program exec (head of features) Jeremy Isaacs received the Desmond Davis award for outstanding contribution to video.

Other awards: Benny Hill for best script (his own show), and Thames TV "Rivals of Sherlock Holmes" for best design. There was also a "general" award to ITN and BBC News departments for "their courageous coverage of events in Northern Ireland."

SECRET TO CALIFORNIA. San Diego a big junket spot this year box of the Republican convention, it's on all tours.

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Most of the contacted newscasters opted for CBS—some because telegrams and phone calls that web beat ABC's, and some cause they often get invited to Coast but rarely get a chance see Fun City anymore. That's particularly true of distant cities Dallas and Houston—where critics offered that excuse to when they turned down the invite.

And some of the critics, according to testimony at hand, a little sore at ABC for putting in the middle—no doubt, no doubt.

3

Judging It



Bamboo Curtain lifts

By FRANK JUDGE
News TV-Radio Critic

We Americans don't know much about mainland China and what we do know, I suspect, isn't true.

In the way that we have of stereotyping people, we have created our image of all Chinese largely in terms of Fu Manchu and Charlie Chan.

About the only Chinese we ever get to see off the movie or TV screens are waiters. We don't even get to see hand laundrymen much any more.

MUCH OF OUR MISCONCEPTIONS, which go back generations, are our own fault. But in more recent years we can attribute much of our ignorance to the Bamboo Curtain the Chinese Communists lowered.

Now, as President Nixon prepares for his historic visit to China, that curtain is lifting as it never has before. This is apparent from the special coverage television is devoting to the visit.

There was, for example, an NBC special on Channel 4 last night, and there will be other specials. The Public Broadcasting Service has a 90-minute special on Channel 56, starting at 7 p.m. tomorrow. ABC has a half-hour special on Channel 7 at 10:30 p.m. Saturday, and at 6 p.m. Sunday. CBS telecasts an hour-long special on Channel 2.

These are but just a few of the special programs that will be televised in the next few weeks.

LAST NIGHT, WITH JOHN CHANCELLOR in charge, NBC presented a three-segment program.

Author Pearl Buck, who lived in China for more than 40 years, was featured in the first part, which offered a capsule history of pre-World II United States-China relations.

The next segment showed how things went during and immediately following the war.

And finally we had a look at how things have been developing since the Communists took over the mainland. Films never before seen on American television were featured.

TOMORROW NIGHT, the Public Broadcasting Service special will consist of two major segments. One will be devoted to the departure of the President and Mrs. Nixon from Andrews Air Force Base, Md., tomorrow morning. The other will be a repeat showing of Theodore White's award-winning documentary, "China — A Revolution Revisited."

Saturday night, ABC will present the first of its "China Trip" specials: This one is called "President Nixon Leaves for Peking."

Bill Sheehan, vice-president and director of TV news for ABC (and a former WJR news director), says the program will: "Cover the route of the President's visit to China, catalog the historic sites and cities the President is scheduled to visit, and attempt to ascertain the impact of the President's meeting with Peking leaders on the future of American foreign policy."

SPEAKING ABOUT THE CBS SPECIAL, "Misunderstanding China," that will be on Sunday, producer-writer Irv Drasnin says:

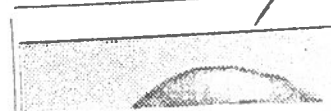
"In the past 20 years, China as an issue has divided America, played a part in Congressional witchhunts and presidential campaigns and great national debates. We have argued about the Chinese and we have fought the Chinese and all this time we haven't really known very much about them . . .

"What we think about something influences what we do about it. We have done many things in China, almost all of them based not on any real knowledge of the Chinese but on our feelings about them. What we have done in China is also based on our view of ourselves. This broadcast is as much about ourselves as it is about the Chinese."

"MISUNDERSTANDING CHINA" traces American-Chinese relationships back some 100 years, beginning with the arrival of the first Americans in China.

It illustrates — through the use of Hollywood movies, official government film, newsreels and old pulp magazines and cartoons — how Americans have stereotyped and characterized the Chinese.

Archie's black 'niece'



SAN FRANCISCO	
KRON	4
KPIX	5
KGO-TV	7
KQED	9
KEMO	20
KBHK	44
OAKLAND	
KTVU	2
SAN MATEO-SAN JOSE	
KNTV	11
KCSM	14
KGSC	36
SALINAS-MONTEREY	
KSBW-TV	8
KMST	46
VALLEY	
KCRA	3
KVIE	6
KXTV	10
KHSL	12
KOVR	13
KTXL	40
(R) - Rerun	

8 A.M.

- 2 NFL Game of the Week
- 3 Brother Buzz
- 4 Gil Box Tickle
- 5 Special: "And David Wept," an original cantata featuring Metropolitan Opera soloists Rosalind Elias, Sherrill Milnes and Ara Berberian
- 7 What on Earth
- 8 11 Oral Roberts
- 10 46 Lamp Unto My Feet
- 13 Miss Pat's Playroom
- 40 Rex Humbard
- 44 Day of Discovery
- 8:30 A.M.
- 2 Oral Roberts
- 3 Kid's Theatre
- 7 Movie: "Ma and Pa Kettle," Majorie Main (1949) ★★
- 8 Old Time Gospel Hour
- 10 46 Look Up and Live
- 11 Kathryn Kuhlman
- 12 Revival Fires
- 13 Oral Roberts Presents
- 44 Kimba

9 A.M.

- 2 Cathedral of Tomorrow
- 4 Football Today
- 5 Vibrations for a New People
- 10 Que Pasa?
- 11 It Is Written
- 12 Herald of Truth
- 13 La Voz de la Raza
- 20 Hour of Deliverance
- 36 Festival Latino
- 40 Tom and Jerry
- 44 Banana Splits
- 46 The Archies
- 9:30 A.M.
- 4 Meet the Press
- 5 International Zone
- 7 Wee Pals On the Go (Premiere)
- 8 NFL Game of the Week
- 10 Kathryn Kuhlman
- 11 Day of Discovery
- 12 Revelations
- 13 Progreso '72
- 20 Film Feature
- 46 Groovie Goolies

6 A.M.

- 4 University of Michigan
- 10 Human Dimension
- 40 Davey and Goliath
- 6:10 A.M.
- 13 News
- 6:15 A.M.
- 13 Sacred Heart
- 6:30 A.M.
- 4 Agriculture USA
- 5 The Answer
- 10 Herald of Truth
- 13 This Is the Life
- 6:45 A.M.
- 40 Davey and Goliath
- 7 A.M.
- 3 This Is the Life
- 4 Around the World in 80 Days
- 5 The Navy (R)
- 7 Voice of Agriculture
- 8 Faith for Today
- 10 Living World
- 13 Faith for Today

SUNDAY
September 17, 1972

Of Special Interest

8 A.M.

And David Wept is a one hour original cantata based on the old testament story of David and Bathsheba. Metropolitan Opera stars Rosalind Elias, Sherrill Milnes and Ara Berberian are the featured soloists in this religious special (5).

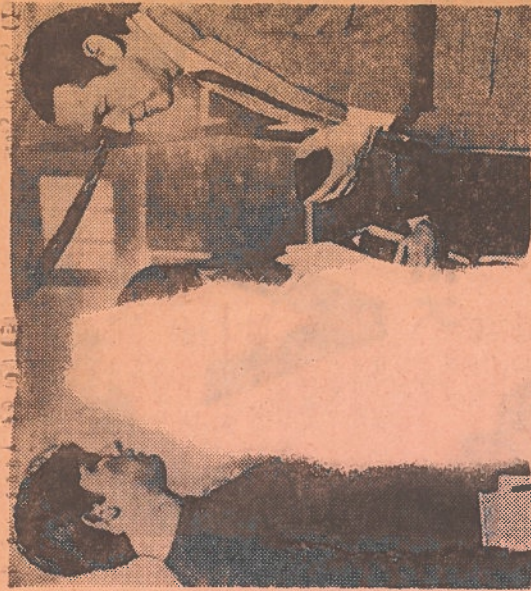
3 P.M.

Misunderstanding China is a 60-minute special directed at exploring a century of myths, stereotypes and other misconceptions Americans have had about the Chinese. Charles Kuralt is the reporter in this program, which can also be heard in Chinese translation on Radio Station KPFA (94.1) simultaneously (5).

PANEL SHOW GUESTS

John G. Schmitz, presidential candidate for the American Party, on "Face the Nation" 4:30 p.m. on (5) and at 6:30 p.m. on (10).

- 5 10 46 NFL Today (Season Premiere)
- 12 The Archies
- 13 Tennessee Tuxedo
- 20 Yessie
- 40 Ultraman
- 44 Three Stooges (R)
- 12:15 P.M.
- 36 Chuco El Roto
- 12:30 P.M.
- 8 Comment
- 12 NFC Football: "New Orleans vs. Los Angeles"
- 36 Informacion y Temas
- 11 A.M.
- 2 12 O'Clock High (R)
- 5 10 46 NFL Game: Atlanta Falcons vs. Chicago Bears. NFL Action Profile (season premiere) will be
- 1 P.M.
- 2 Dialogue
- 3 8 Pro Football: Miami vs. Kansas City
- 4 Community Circle
- 7 Golf for Swingers



COLLEGE STUDENT Russell is unable to convince his professor (William Sherry) that he can repair a certain piece in "The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes" on Channels 4, 3, 8.

- 11 High and Dry
- 13 Primus
- 20 The Mini
- 36 El Abismo
- 42 Movie: "The Redhead Son" (1950)
- 46 A More
- 2:30
- 4 Forum
- 5 Silence Please
- 7 La Raza
- 10 McHale's
- 11 Movie: "Tello Go"
- 12 Abbott, I (1953) ★
- 13 Sports Action
- 20 The Gospel
- 36 Cinema
- 46 Voice of
- 3 I
- It Takes a Thief (R)
- Japan Musical Variety
- Movie: "The Marauders."
- William Boyd (1947) ★★
- World of Lowell Thomas
- Sports Action Profile
- 5:30 P.M.
- Electric Company
- Peticoat Junction (R)
- French Panorama
- Perry Mason (R)
- Untamed World
- One Step Beyond
- Lassie
- 5:45 P.M.
- Swedish Close-up
- 6 P.M.
- The World of Survival
- Andy Griffith
- News
- 5 46 Campaign '72
- World Press

CBS Offers Classy China Documentary While NBC Passes The (Pearl S.) Buck

U.S. television's prelude to President Nixon's China junket was like cramming for freshman exams.

But the electronic media was not playing catchup from a semester's neglect. It was cramming against decades of informational sloth—and the hurryup coverage, the backing and filling, had aspects of a tragicomedy.

For the truly comic, there was amateur night with NBC News in a babytalking item of an hour called, "China Lost and Found." And for a journalistically professional view of China-American relations with undertones of deep tragedy there was CBS News' "Misunderstanding China," a very hard look at America's deeply-rooted racist attitudes toward the Chinese, perpetrated for years by the penny press, movies, tv and the mass media in general, and how these attitudes have helped to shape disastrous U.S. policies. This was not hard news, but rather hard feature material.

CBS correspondent Charles Kuralt, who is called upon to bring viewers the worst and the best about their country (Christmas time in the Pennsylvania coalmines, and "Hunger in America," along with vignettes on the noble and the enterprising in the backwaters of the nation), was perfect for the narration. He worked from a bristling script by producer Irv Drasin and was backed by editing which scored all the contentions vividly. No propagandist was spared, from Humphrey Bogart and Barbara Stanwyck to Pearl S. Buck and Fu Manchu.

Miss Buck was singled out for her do-good but simplistic view of the Chinese in "The Good Earth," with scenes from the influential movie version of that novel portraying the Chinese peasants as primitive, ignorant and superstitious.

CBS used Miss Buck as a heavy in its prelude. NBC, on the other hand, demurred to the authoress, using her on camera for a soft recital on past U. S.-China history. Granted viewers needed a fill-in after all the years, but Miss Buck's primer must have had the "Sesame Street" crowd switching. The best of NBC's furtive glances came in footage supplied by outside producers Joe DeCola and Peter Davis featuring former members of the State Department discussing the decisions, clouded by the Joe McCarthy era, which sealed off China-U. S. relations.

Just how furtive the NBC glances were was demonstrated when the De Cola-Davis film was shown in its entirety on New York public station WNET-TV. De Cola, in fact, had fought with George Murray, exec producer of the NBC teleumentary, when footage featuring John Service was included and then cut from the NBC edited version. The footage in question had Service predicting that, had we continued relations with the Chinese Communist leaders instead of sticking with the exiles, there might well never have been a Korean war, for that matter, a Vietnam war. De Cola told VARIETY that he was ultimately satisfied with the handling on NBC (where the footage was used in a different context).

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syndicated John Roderick's "China-The Open Door," which has been reviewed favorably here (VARIETY, Feb. 9).

Locally, New York independent WNEW-TV aired an edited version of a China documentary shot in 1971 by Yugoslavians. Heavy editing in narrative was apparent—and noted by host John Daly at the outset. The two-hour, prime-time spread was most notable for the interludes of comment by China experts, including the N.Y. Times' Seymour Topping, newspaper correspondent Mark Gayn and others. WPIX-TV had a 90-minute China special dealing with the expectations from Nixon's "summit meeting" with the Chinese, and the 25-year controversy over Red China's admission to the U.N. Bill.

Eleven Network Bets For 20th TV

In "The Year of the Pilots," 20th-Fox TV has a total of 11 projects placed at the three webs for September consideration, including five pilots for NBC where 20th is currently unrepresented on the sked.

The studio has a trio of sitcoms ("Topper Returns," "The Bear & I" and "Going Places") skedded for airing as a tripleheader "World Premiere" at NBC-TV at some yet to be determined airdate, plus a two-hour "World Premiere" feature-pilot now called "The Guardians" (formerly "The Prosecutors") from David Gerber. Herb Brodtkin's hourlong "Lights Out" pilot has already aired on the web.

CBS has commissioned three sitcoms including the two adaptations of hit films ("Anna & the King of Siam," "Mash") plus Gerber's "Oh Nurse." 20th also has an ABC sitcom, Jim Brooks' "Class of '55" plus the Frank McCarthy "Fireball Forward" World War II feature-pilot and Herb Brodtkin's "Rx for the Defense," a forensic medicine and courtroom combo whose pilot length is unknown.

Above and beyond pilot projects, the studio has Freddie Wayne's "Ben Franklin, American" special readying for NBC airing (with series possibilities inherent in the concept) and "Return to Peyton Place" skedded for debut April 3 on the same web as a daytime serial strip. In conjunction with Columbia Records, the studio has shot two half-hour musical pilots with Vicki Carr and Ray Stevens, respectively, possibly for syndication. And finally, 20th has renewed its syndicated "Circus" series for a second year of 26 half-hours.

ABC-TV Renews 'MOW'

ABC-TV has renewed its "Movie of the Week" made-for-tv film series for the 1972-73 season, its fourth year on the web.

The skein is the direct responsibility of Barry Diller, the web's veepee for feature films and Circle Entertainment, with Allen Epstein as director of the project.

Israeli Series In Mex

Mexico City, Feb. 22.

The Israeli Embassy here announced it would start airing a program over radio KELA on Fridays at 1:45 p.m. Sent from Israel, it would include cultural news and news about latest scientific and research developments in addition to music by Israeli composers and interpreters.

A Mexican cultural program is currently being broadcast in Israel, the embassy said.

Chet Huntley's 10 Specs Tied To '76

American Airlines has agreed to underwrite a series of 10 hourlong specials keyed to the American Revolution Bicentennial, which will bring Chet Huntley back to network tv. The series will be produced and directed by Donald B. Hyatt of NBC Enterprises' special projects unit, with network and international placement sales still to be determined. The first program is skedded for airing on U.S. tv next fall, and the series is skedded to continue through 1977.

Huntley will serve as the series' on-and-off-screen narrator, as well as serving as commercial spokesman for the airline—a role he has already assumed. The shows have been given working titles of "Pursuing Happiness," "Strange & Terrible Times," "Men to Match My Mountains," "Shots Heard 'Round the World," "Damn the Torpedoes—Go Ahead!," "The Fabulous Country," "Faith of Our Fathers," "The Fate of Unborn Millions," "Hitch Your Wagon to a Star" and "I Name Thee Old Glory."

Telecast plans call for the first show to air in the fourth quarter of this current year, then two a year in 1973 through 1976, with the final program to air on June 30, 1977. Despite the NBCE aegis of the project, the airing network has not yet been selected (although it must be assumed that NBC will have first crack at it). The programs will be peddled overseas on a program-by-program basis rather than expecting a foreign buyer to contract for the whole bundle over such an extended period of time.

Doyle Dane Bernbach represented American Airlines in setting up the deal.

WNBC-TV WOOS AWAY FEIN FROM WABC-TV

WNBC-TV, NBC's New York flagship, overtaken recently in the news ratings by WABC-TV's "Eyewitness News" strips, has hired away he ABC o&o's 11 p.m. news producer Norman Fein.

Fein moves over to NBC as manager of news operations for WNBC-TV (station's news is produced by the NBC News division). He'll be working for Bernard Shusman, head of the local news operations at the network.

Ron Tindiglia, formerly assignment editor, replaces Fein as producer of WABC-TV's 11 p.m. news strip.

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Inside Stuff—Radio-TV

NBC last week was given 20 days to tell the FCC how it is going to present counter-commercials to offset ads for large-engine auto mobiles and leaded gasoline on its flagship station, WNBC-TV in New York. The ads are under attack by Friends of the Earth, and the FCC originally refused to apply the fairness doctrine to the spots. But the U.S. Court of Appeals for D.C. overturned the commission and asked that the environmental group be satisfied with anti-pollution spots. NBC has said it is making a study of the commercials it has carried over a full year, and that the study will take at least four months. That's fine, the FCC said, but meanwhile there is no reason why "consideration of the treatment now being given the issue" should have to "await the completion of NBC's prolonged study of the past."

In an effort to re-establish a positive image of police officials, WAGA-TV in Atlanta is setting up a monthly award for police and other law enforcement officers in Georgia, to be called the Silver Badge. Nominations for the award will be sought from the station's viewers, including officers themselves. Each month the winner, to be selected by the Georgia Council of the National Council on Crime & Delinquency, will receive a plaque, a lapel pin and \$100 from the station. Monthly winners of the Silver Badge will be eligible for the annual Golden Badge Award, which includes \$500 from WAGA-TV.

Moving to diversify his interest in the entertainment field, Ralph Edwards has formed a partnership with Jack Wormster in the newly formed Newjack Sound recorders. Company specializes in creative sound for radio, television, films and audio visual. John Barber has been named manager and John Sealy chief engineer. Among other interests of Edwards are the tv syndicated series, "Trust or Consequences" and "This Is Your Life." He also owns a radio station in Bakersfield, Calif.

NBC News is assigning "resident reporting teams," consisting of a correspondent, field producer and camera crew, to the states in which key primary elections will be held, with the intent of adding the dimension of insight into each state's political climate to the usual campaign and candidate coverage. Each team will take up residence in its assigned state a month in advance of the primary.

Douglas Kiker is the correspondent named for New Hampshire. Cassie Mackin goes to Florida, Garriek Utley to Wisconsin, Steve Delaney to Pennsylvania, with other assignments for the eight to 10 states NBC expects to cover still to come. Miss Mackin, of NBC's Washington bureau, is reportedly a dark horse candidate herself—a good bet to surface as the first woman to be assigned as a floor reporter at the upcoming Democratic and Republican conventions.

Collision Of Junkets

TV Press Forced To Choose Between CBS And ABC, As Both Webs Schedule Publicity Jaunts At Same Time

Just when President Nixon and Chairman Mao appear to have found a way to coexist, things seem to have hotted up between the ABC-TV and CBS-TV publicity departments.

Nobody expects a shootout on Sixth Ave., or any lesser violence to erupt, but relations are not as cordial as they were, to say the least.

It seems that back in December CBS designated May 31-June 8 as the time it would junket tv critics and reporters of major market newspapers to New York, Los Angeles and San Diego—to meet with daytime and nighttime producers and stars and, in the latter city, to learn how CBS News plans to cover the GOP convention.

When CBS picked out its dates, its publicists got in touch with NBC and ABC to ask if they would like to join the effort and share the tab. NBC, which had teamed up with CBS on a similar junket last year, indicated it had already planned a press trip of its own on or about June 22. The ABC exec contacted said he would clear it with his bosses and get back.

According to CBS, the ABC man never did get back and the next thing they knew was that ABC had contacted editors by phone and invited them on a May 30-June 3 safari to California. San Diego is a big junket spot this year because of the Republican convention, and it's on all tours.

When CBS learned about the ABC inquiries—it had already done some calling around and gotten a number of acceptances—it immediately fired off telegraphed formal invites. A similar ABC letter arrived on editors' desks several days later, creating some confusion.

Most of the contacted newsmen opted for CBS—some because the telegrams and phone calls from that web beat ABC's, and some because they often get invited to the Coast but rarely get a chance to see Fun City anymore. That's particularly true of distant cities like Dallas and Houston—where the critics offered that excuse to ABC when they turned down the invites.

And some of the critics, according to testimony at hand, are a little sore at ABC for putting them in the middle—particularly because

they are aware of the timetable of events.

But those events have moved too fast for ABC to change its plans. It picked those particular dates, a spokesman said, because to go earlier would have meant arriving on the Coast before a solid lineup of show stars had been set. The web had also set a meeting of affiliates' promotion managers beginning June 7. And to hold the junket later in the year, according to the spokesman, might be to run into the coverage of summer Olympics and the Presidential conventions.

In fact, it's claimed, the heavy schedule of summer events led ABC this year to change its normal course of taking small numbers of press to the Coast throughout the summer, rather than in one large bunch.

Right now it's a question of how large a bunch ABC will get for its pains. Of the 65 or so persons invited, it has so far gotten about 20 acceptances. CBS, on the other hand, claims that about 57 or 58 on its similarly-sized list have indicated they will be aboard. And even some of those accepting the ABC invite have said they will pick up on CBS after ABC goes home.

Maybe next year the webs will give their junketeers a choice of two from Column A and one from Column B and insure peace and tranquility among the California palms.

RADIO LICENSEES GET FCC ALERT ON DISKS

Washington, Feb. 22.

Radio station managements don't have to select every record to be played on a particular program, the FCC has ruled, but each licensee "must have general procedures to exercise its overall responsibility for what is broadcast."

The commission gave the ruling in clarifying a letter it sent out last August to licensees on "free form format" stations. The FCC then stressed that each licensee is strictly responsible for what is aired. The Committee to Free KFMG (FM) in Des Moines, Iowa, asked for the clarification. The group has complained that the station has taken away its free form progressive rock program and substituted a play list.